



**"YOU HAVE AGAIN MADE YOUR WAY IN,  
COLD AND BEAUTIFUL.  
YOU ARE DECEMBER, AND I LOVE YOU."  
THOMAS R. PARSONS**

### **SEASONS GREETINGS**

Dear All,

Christmas and the New Year is an important time to recognise the valuable work carried out by everybody over the past year, and to look forward to the year ahead.

On behalf of the Society Trustees, we would like to say thank you to ALL our members for your ongoing support to the Society, and, to ALL the Society Volunteers who run the Branches, and take on the responsible roles in the wider Society, we say a huge thank you to you ALL, for your dedication and commitment. The work you do is truly amazing!!

The NIFHS membership is the lifeblood of the Society and helps to safeguard the future of the Society.

Please be assured that the entire NIFHS Team will continue, to work hard for our members, to ensure that the Society is in the best shape, possible, as we move forward into 2023, and beyond.

Wherever you are around the world, and however you celebrate at this time of year, may I send very best wishes from myself and ALL the Team at NIFHS.

Please do have an enjoyable, peaceful, and safe, Festive Season and New Year!

Alison Tait, Joint Chair  
On behalf of the NIFHS Trustees  
December 2022





## PROJECTS UPDATE

### Families of Carnmoney - William Fee McKinney

We have been given a copy of William Fee McKinney's "Family Register," which is known locally as his "stud book." W. F. McKinney lived at Sentry Hill, Ballycraigy, Co. Antrim (just outside Glengormley). He was interested in history and genealogy and compiled information on families, most of whom lived in the Parish of Carnmoney. Much of the information was gleaned from the baptism and marriage registers of churches in the locality.

The files which amount to 394 pages, have several families to a page. There are 1,069 entries in the index, and these are just heads of families. Although McKinney doesn't record how the families are related, it can often be seen from dates of birth where the connections are.

The original index has been enhanced to include spouses' names and emigration information that is noted in the Register. Also included are birth years, when they are given, or an approximate year of birth based on a marriage year or census information. So, any years that have "abt." are our additions and are a best guess purely to give the researcher some idea of century or decade. The page number is also recorded.

The family records include birth years from the 17<sup>th</sup> century through to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Surprisingly they also include HENRY VIII and WOODROW WILSON! The last entry seems to be the death of David PAISLEY who died at the Somme on 1 April 1917, just a few weeks before William's death on 25 April 1917.

The index and the copies are available in the Research Centre, and the index is available on the website to facilitate "lookups."

[www.nifhs.org/resources/miscellaneous-records/carmmoney-families](http://www.nifhs.org/resources/miscellaneous-records/carmmoney-families)

### Holy Family Parish Church, Belfast

Surnames lists for Holy Family RC Church have now been added to the website under Church Records. At a time when many people moved to Belfast in search of work these registers record a wealth of information on places of origin and emigration.

[www.nifhs.org/resources/church-records-by-county](http://www.nifhs.org/resources/church-records-by-county)

The National Library of Ireland does not have records for this parish; therefore, they are not online and have not been indexed by Ancestry or Findmypast. If you think your ancestor may have lived in the Antrim Road area of north Belfast it is worth checking the lists and requesting a lookup or viewing the transcriptions in the Randal Gill Library.

The original article about these records can be found in *North Irish Roots*, Vol. 25, No. 2 (2014), pp. 17-19, available on JSTOR.

[www.nifhs.org/membership/benefits-of-membership/jstor-north-irish-roots](http://www.nifhs.org/membership/benefits-of-membership/jstor-north-irish-roots)

Sandra Ardis  
Projects Coordinator

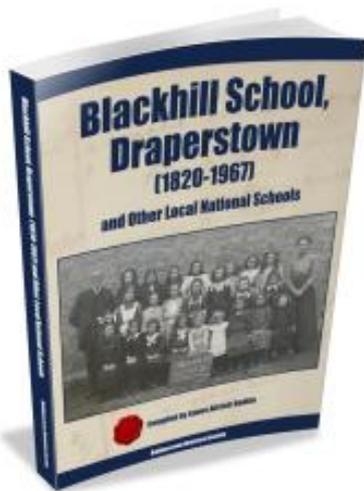


## **BOOK REVIEW**

### *BLACKHILL SCHOOL, DRAPERSTOWN [1820-1967]*

#### *And other Local National Schools*

Compiled by James Alistair Bodkin and Published by Ballinascreen Historical Society



Don't be misled by the title of this book, it is about much more than one single school!

Blackhill school was built and run by the Drapers' Company of London, when they identified a need for schools to educate the children of the poor in their Divisions.

The book contains a brief history of education in Ireland and explains the types of school records that are available at The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI).

Reports by Drapers' Company Agents and extracts from Grant Aid Applications, which came into being with the National School System in 1831, are shown throughout the book and there are transcripts

and images of school registers, inspectors' reports, attendance reports, and much more. Blackhill became a National School in 1874.

There are Class photos of Blackhill pupils from 1911 to the 1960s throughout the book, and at the back is a Personal Names Index.

Chapter 5 reports on 24 other National Schools in the area, with maps showing their location, and includes photographs of many of the schools.

All of the above makes for an interesting read, even if your ancestors are not from the Parish of Ballinascreen, but it is the reports on the schools by the Company Agents and National School Inspectors, the research on the teachers, the records of the careers that former pupils followed, and the personal experiences recorded, that make this book an exceptional record of life in the Parish of Ballinascreen.

Sandra Ardis  
B1361

A copy of this book is available for consultation in NIFHS Research Library.

It is available to purchase at –

[www.ballinascreenhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.ballinascreenhistoricalsociety.com)



## SNIPPETS 150<sup>th</sup> EDITION

'Snippets', the monthly Newsletter of the Belfast Branch, compiled and edited by Mike McKeag, has reached an impressive milestone. The 150<sup>th</sup> issue has just been circulated. By my reckoning, this represents over 12 years of commitment. Keep up the good work, Mike!!

The following is an article from Snippets 150 that I share with Mike's blessing.

### We Will Remember Them



But do you? Here is your December challenge. In your e-calendar, on your laptop or your mobile phone, enter the birth, the marriage, and the death of as many of your ancestors as you can and, for each entry, select Repeat Annually.

Then, two or three times a year, each will pop up into your consciousness and you will wonder about them, and their lives and you will perhaps be moved to find out a bit more.



At the time of writing this, 2nd December, two names popped up on my phone: my Uncle John McKeag was born on this day in 1898 but, sadly, he lived only 3 1/2 months; how terribly sad for my Grandparents and family. Also on this day, in 1913, my great grandfather Theodore Preston, a Royal Naval Surgeon, died; it was his genealogical research that triggered my interest in family history.

I wonder whether anyone else thinks about Them from one year's end to the next.

## WHITEABBEY BLEACH WORKS

You may remember the article in October's e-Newsletter about the book Susie Cunningham is writing about her grandmother Daisy Henderson and her family, who owned the bleach works.

Susie has been given original documents, birth certificates, baptismal 'lines' and vaccination certificates, relating to some of the employees of the works. She has managed to contact some of the families of these employees and return some documents. Those she has been unable to find a home for, she has handed over to the safe keeping of NIFHS. In due course, these will be catalogued, and the information made available to our members through the Look-up service and at the NIFHS Research Library.

Our thanks to Susie for entrusting this important resource to us and we look forward to her new book.



## ARE YOU CONNECTED TO THE ALLEN FAMILY FROM DONEGAL OR LONDONDERRY?

Greetings,

My name is Dr. Eric Allen and I hail from a small village (Van Buren with less than 1,000 inhabitants) on the Ozark Plateau in Missouri. I am a 9th generation Irish male Allen in North America. My ancestor arrived in the port of New Castle from Ireland in the year 1729.

*97 Deed. 22 Aug 1729. Andrew Miller of White Clay Creek Hun. in Co. of New Castle, carpenter, for the sum of 123 pounds, sold unto John Allen, late of Ireland, now of same place, fuller, a tract of land commonly called Northampton, situate in sd Co. containing 200 acres. It is bounded on the West by Delaware River and the north side of the most southern branch of Christiana Creek toward the head.*

(New Castle, County Delaware Land Records, 1728-1731 and 1734-1738 by Carol Garrett, Heritage Books, Inc. MD, 2020.)

I have researched to determine the general state of affairs in Ulster at this time in the late 1720s including successive poor harvests along with rent-racking and expiration of three life leases. A newspaper excerpt summarizes the events as follows: *The New-England Weekly Journal, Aug. 25, 1729, for example, carried a report from New-Castle dated Aug. 14, that about 2000 Irish had landed during the past week and more were expected soon.* Please note the date on John Allen's deed and the precise week the newspaper article references for the New Castle arrival.

Then a specific vessel, the Eagle's Wing, made continuous trips from Ulster to specifically the port of New Castle in the 1720s.

*Among the ships built for this purpose was the brig Eagle's Wing, launched at Belfast, Ireland, in the year 1714 and in constant service for more than 35 years between the ports of Belfast and Londonderry to Newcastle, Delaware. It was a fast-sailing vessel, modern for the times, making the trip to America, if all went well, in seven to 10 weeks.*

(The Clan Finlay, Vol. 1, No. 4, May 1995, page 33)

So why does the Eagle's Wing seem to matter so much? It is the threaded needle that crosses the Atlantic in this story to weave the allied families together.

*Michael O'Daugerty and John Caldwell each bring families and migrate on the ship Eagle's Wing from Ulster, Ireland, to New Castle, Delaware on separate trips, Caldwell in 1727 and O'Daugherty in 1729. This is known as chain migration when extended and allied families migrate on the same ship to the same location over multiple years. Each of the Caldwell and O'Daugherty families has an extensive online research footprint.*

(The Dougherty's of Kentucky (continued) by William C Stewart, The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, Vol. 54, No. 189 (OCTOBER 1956), pp. 348-367 (20 pages), Published By: Kentucky Historical Society. Accessed at - [www.jstor.org/stable/23374167](http://www.jstor.org/stable/23374167))

Now, the surname Dougherty (and variations) was very common in Donegal and Derry in past times. My immigrant ancestor John Allen had a son, a third born son, who was named Daugherty Allen. He married



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Rebecca Garrison 1759 in New Castle, County Delaware. Traditionally, the third son was named after the maiden name of the mother. Dougherty followed this tradition with his third son, Garrison Allen. *The maiden name of the mother matters.....*

Now a snippet from the Hearth Money Rolls of the 1660s for the Barony of Inishowen West, Parish of Templemore, in house order over the three successive townlands:

Carrowamaddy

469: Connor **Doherty** 470: Owen Duddy 471: James **Doherty** 472: Mangus O'Lauchery 473: Brian O'Farlan 474: Cahell O'Louchery 475: Morice Rowden 476: Edmund O'Clellan

Toulett

477: John **Caldwell** 478: John Marshall 479: John **Allen**

Bohullion

480: Thomas Bratten 481: Henry Guy 482: John **Allen** 483: Mathew Sherrard 484: William Ritchie 485: Alexander Lawther 486: John Deniston 487: John Paisley 488: James Latham

( [www.billmacafee.com/1660shearthmoneyrolls/1669hearthmoneyrollsantrim.pdf](http://www.billmacafee.com/1660shearthmoneyrolls/1669hearthmoneyrollsantrim.pdf) )

So in about a 20-house range (by house order across three townlands) in the 1660s I have the surnames of multiple families that came to America in 1727-1729 specifically to the same port, New Castle and on the same ship, Eagle's Wing, under the concept of chain migration. Now, Allen is the more unique name in this portion of Ireland/Ulster in the 1660s compared to Doherty. Are the names connected, I can't say they are yet-----maybe I have just configured a bunch of random dots with no real connection.

But maybe there is something here-----something ethereal and right on the edge of having some substance and proof. My traditional paper trail has run out, but maybe there can be another type of proof? I'm a believer in DNA testing for genealogy and have my DNA test completed and on file. Are you a male Allen that has deep family roots in Donegal or Londonderry? Or are you a female family history enthusiast with deep Donegal or Londonderry roots with connections to a present-day Allen male in your family tree? Or are you a family history enthusiast who could pay it forward on my behalf and provide this information to an Allen neighbor, an Allen you attend church with, or an Allen you work with?

I would be willing to provide a free yDNA test kit to any Allen males with Donegal or Londonderry roots back into the 1800s. This kit would arrive via the post, involve no blood or needles, and only take about two minutes to complete by rubbing a cotton swab on the inner cheek. The return postage is even included. This gifted kit and results would become the participants as a tribute to your Allen heritage. The hope would be a yDNA match to my Allen line as hypothesized above. However, I am well versed with yDNA for genealogy results and would be happy to help analyze any other Allen families the gifted kits might match.

My sincerest thanks for taking a few minutes to read this article to its conclusion and my kindest regards,

Dr. Eric Allen  
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Van Buren, Missouri, USA 63965  
[doughertyallen1759@gmail.com](mailto:doughertyallen1759@gmail.com)



## RECENT ADDITIONS TO NIFHS LIBRARY

### OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2022

- 013--003 North Belfast Historical Magazine No 3 1993 North Belfast Hist. Society  
016--001 Portcaman No. 2 1994 Bushmills Folklore & History Group (*donated by Ann Robinson*)  
016--002 Portcaman No. 3 1996 Bushmills Folklore & History Group (*donated by Ann Robinson*)  
016--003 Portcaman No. 4 1991 (*includes Dunluce Gravestones inscriptions*) Bushmills Folklore & History Group  
016--004 Portcaman No. 5 2002 Bushmills Folklore & History Group  
016--005 Portcaman No. 6 2007 (*includes Billy Gravestones inscriptions*) Bushmills Folklore & History Group  
016--006 Portcaman No. 7 2010 Bushmills Folklore & History Group  
016--007 Portcaman No. 9 2015 Bushmills Folklore & History Group  
029--053 Breifne Vol. XV No. 57 2022 Cumann Seanchais Bhreifne  
074--132 The Irish Sword Vol. 33 No. 133 Summer 2022 The Military History Society of Ireland  
074--133 The Irish Sword Vol. 33 No. 134 Winter 2022 The Military History Society of Ireland  
074A--028 Vol. 33 2021-22 The Military History Society of Ireland  
100--066 Co. Londonderry, St. Mary's, Macosquin, Parish of Camus-Juxta-Bann, Bap. 1878-1900, Mar. 1845-1900 NIFHS, Causeway Coast and Glens Branch  
100--070 Co. Londonderry, St. Lurach, Maghera, Bap. 1785-1892, Mar. 1798-1845, NIFHS, Causeway Coast and Glens Branch  
100--071 Co. Down, Donaghcloney Parish Church, Waringstown, Bap 1697-1865, NIFHS Project Group  
100--072 Co. Down, Donaghcloney Parish Church, Waringstown, Mar. 1697-1869, Bur. 1697-1890 NIFHS Project Group  
150--098 Co. Antrim, Buckna Pres., Bap. 1841-1893, NIFHS Project Group  
150--099 Co. Down, 1st Dromara Pres., Bap. 1816-1922, Mar. 1817-1845, Bur. 1750-1972, NIFHS Project Group  
150--100 Co. Antrim, Newtowncrommelin Pres., Bap. 1835-1905, Mar. 1836-1844, NIFHS Project Group  
350--075 Co. Down, Aghaderg, Parish of, Historical Delights. Little, Rev. G.N.  
400--149 Co. Down, Kikinamurry Presbyterian Church, A History of. (*Includes gravestone inscriptions*) Kikinamurry Pres. Church (*donated by Rosemary Sibbett*)  
555--203 Neilson family: Antrim & Colonial America 1600-1850 Forwood, Sally (*donated by Sally Forwood*)  
675--176 Co. Donegal, Abbey of Donegal, Headstones & Heritage, O'Doherty, Seamus  
675--177 Co. Antrim, Gracehill Moravian Churchyard, Gracehill, "God's Acre", Vol. 1, Sisters' Burial Sites, sections A, B, C, & D, Christie, R.W.  
675--178 Co. Antrim, Gracehill Moravian Churchyard, Gracehill, "God's Acre", Vol. 2, Brethren's Burial Sites, Sections E, F, G & H, Christie, R.W.  
700--109 Donegal, Your Family, A Guide to Genealogy Sources Culture Division, Donegal County Council  
750--195 Co. Tyrone, The Clogher Story, Johnson, Jack  
900--411 Belfast, Ballymacarrett, An Illustrated & Spoken History, Campbell, Aidan  
900--412 Belfast, East, Big Houses, Volume 2, The Families That Lived in Them Campbell, Aidan  
900--413 Co. Donegal, Letterkenny, The Past & Present of the town, A History in Photos, Kelly, Kieran  
900--414 Co. Donegal, More About Inver et All Meehan, Helen  
900--415 Co. Antrim, Ahoghill Folk, Part Two Mid-Antrim Historical Group  
985--013 Clogher, Diocese of, Landscapes of South Ulster, A Parish Atlas Duffy, Patrick J.



## **AND FINALLY...**

### **CENSUS NEWS**

#### **1921 Scottish census released on Wednesday 30 November 2022**

##### **ScotlandsPeople 1921 census**

 Who will you find?

Family-history website [ScotlandsPeople](https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk) has been updated to include over 9000 volumes of enumeration district books, comprising more than 200,000 images of 4.8 million individual records.

Scanned images of the original handwritten census books detail each address, recorded on the night of 19 June 1921, against the accommodation, everyone present is listed with details, including their relationships to each other, their age, their occupation and for the first-time information on orphanhood, dependent children and workplace.

The 1921 census reveals further details of the private lives of people living through social and economic turmoil. These are people struggling to emerge from the long shadow of World War I and the Great Influenza Pandemic.

You can open an account on [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk) and search the indexes free of charge. There are fees for viewing images from the census itself.

#### **1926 Irish Free State census to be released in centenary year**

There was no census taken on the island of Ireland in 1921 because of the War of Independence. The first census of the Irish Free State was taken on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1926.

This census will be released in April 2026 and will be available free online. Over 700,000 individual return sheets containing data from the 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland are being digitised as part of the National Archives of Ireland project.

It will be worth the wait, Folks!



Best wishes to you all from the e-Newsletter team and thank you for all the comments and contributions.

Keep them coming at – [Newsletter@nifhs.org](mailto:Newsletter@nifhs.org)

**See you in 2023!**

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this Newsletter at the time of its publication. Links to third party websites are included in good faith. The NIFHS is not responsible for the content associated with those links. Over the passage of time the content on websites, including NIFHS.org, may be moved or removed. This may result in "page not found" error messages or content that does not appear to be relevant to the link source context.